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In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 and 2 and amend claims 3 and 4 as follows.

- 1. (canceled)
- 2. (canceled)
- 3. (currently amended) The image-reading device of claim 1 An image-reading device having a
 first end and a second end and comprising:
- 3 a platen glass for supporting an original document:
- 4 an end glass adjacent to the platen glass;
- 5 <u>a sheet member that connects bottom surfaces of the platen glass and the end glass;</u>
- 6 <u>a feeder for feeding a document to the platen glass:</u>
- 7 <u>a carriage arranged for movement relative to the platen glass and the end glass from the</u>
- 8 <u>first end of the image-reading device</u>;
- 9 <u>a rod lens array mounted on the carriage;</u>
- 10 a photoelectric transfer device for reading an image of the original document formed by
- 11 the rod lens array; and
- 12 <u>a controller for driving the carriage at a first speed as it travels from said first end to said</u>
- second end and for driving the carriage at a second speed that is slower than said first speed
- during a time the carriage is traveling near said second end;
- wherein

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- the carriage includes a sliding member that is biased against the sheet member during a
- time the carriage is being driven by the controller at said second speed; and
- said second speed is less than one-half the maximum speed of the carriage.
 - 4. (currently amended) The image-reading device of claim 2, An image-reading device having a

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2	first end and a second end and comprising:
3	a platen glass for supporting an original document;
4	an end glass adjacent to the platen glass;
5	a sheet member that connects bottom surfaces of the platen glass and the end glass;
6	a feeder for feeding a document to the platen glass;
7	a carriage arranged for movement relative to the platen glass and the end glass from the
8	first end of the image-reading device toward the second end of the image-reading device;
9	a rod lens array mounted on the carriage;
10	a photoelectric transfer device for reading an image of the original document formed by
11	the rod lens array; and
12	a controller for driving the carriage at a first speed as it travels from said first end to said
13	second end and for driving the carriage at a second speed that is slower than said first speed
14	during a time the carriage is traveling near said second end;
15	wherein
16	the carriage is biased against the platen glass during a time the carriage is being driven by
17	the controller at said first speed;
18	the carriage is biased against the end glass during a time the carriage is being driven by
19	the controller at said second speed;
20	the carriage includes a sliding member that is biased against the sheet member during a
21	time the carriage is being driven by the controller at said second speed; and
22	said second speed is less than one-half the maximum speed of the carriage.